



Fatality #3 - January 18, 2003
Slip/Fall of Person - KY - Limestone
Vulcan Materials Co. - Central Quarry

METAL/NONMETAL MINE FATALITY - On January 18, 2003, a 37-year-old supervisor with 16 years 8 months mining experience was fatally injured at an underground crushed stone mine. The victim and a co-worker were re-positioning a water discharge line adjacent to a fan installed on top of a ventilation shaft located on the first level of the mine. The victim stepped on the metal air shaft enclosure. The metal had deteriorated and it failed, causing the victim to fall down the shaft, 143 feet to the second level.



Best Practices

- Ensure that covers installed over openings are substantially constructed, inspected frequently and properly maintained.
- Inspect metal structures located in wet or corrosive environments frequently to identify deterioration that may present a safety hazard.
- Evaluate the integrity and support strength of any cover that was not designed as a walkway prior to walking on it.
- Restrict access to covers over openings that were not specifically designed to serve as travelways.

This is the third fatality reported in calendar year 2003 in the metal and nonmetal mining industries. As of this date in 2002, there were three fatalities reported in these industries. This is the second fatality classified as Slip/Fall of Person in 2003. There was one Slip/Fall of Person fatality in the same period in 2002.